

Remarks

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the outstanding Office Action in the above-identified patent application. Claims 20-30 are allowed. Claims 6-10 and 14 have been amended. Claims 1-5, 11-13 and 15-19 have been cancelled.

I. Objection to Claims 6-10 and 14

Claims 6-10 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As suggested by the Examiner, claims 6-10 and 14 have been rewritten and are believed allowable.

II. Rejection of Claims 1, 13 and 15-19 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1, 13 and 15-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,067,495 (“*Brehm*”).

While applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s rejection on these grounds, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the allowed claims, claims 1, 13 and 15-19 have been canceled from the application.

It is therefore respectfully requested that the present rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

III. Rejection of Claims 1-5 and 11-12 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-5 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over “Stimulation of auricular acupuncture points in weight loss” (“*Richards*”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,514,175 (“*Kim*”).

While applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s rejection on these grounds, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the allowed claims, claims 1-5 and 11-12 have been canceled from the application.

It is therefore respectfully requested that the present rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

Based on the above Amendments and these Remarks, it is respectfully requested that claims 6-10, 14 and 20-30 be passed to issuance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501826 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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